

Missoula City Council Budget Committee of the Whole Minutes

July 29, 2020

12:30 PM

Virtual Meeting: Live Stream and On Demand: <http://www.ci.missoula.mt.us/webcasts>

Watch Live on Cable TV Channel 190

YouTube Live Stream and On Demand:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5fnfMPFGSk8Gwq6F5UoqGg>

Live call in phone numbers: 1 (253) 215-8782 1 (888) 475-4499 (landlines only) Meeting ID: 960 049 3694

Members present: Stacie Anderson, Mirtha Becerra, Heather Harp, Jordan Hess, Gwen Jones, Julie Merritt, Jesse Ramos, Sandra Vasecka, Bryan von Lossberg, Heidi West

Members absent: John P. Contos, Amber Sherrill

Others present: Staff Present: Mayor John Engen, Jolanda Cummings, Corena Maurer, Eran Pehan, Montana James, Ryan Applegate, Scot Colwell, Donna Gaukler, Dale Bickell, Leigh Griffing, Chase Jones

1. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

1.1 Roll Call

1.2 Approval of the Minutes

1.2.1 Minutes from the July 22, 2020 Budget Committee of the Whole meeting

The minutes were approved as submitted.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

2424 - Frank Colber - spoke in support of funding for Ninkpata Park. Need a viable park in that area. Would like it to be a priority for the 2021 fiscal year budget.

5678- Matt Larson - is requesting more money towards the community and affordable housing in the 2021 fiscal year budget.

3922 - Theresa Cox - live near Ninkpata Park. There is nothing in the area for the children. Important to offer the children the opportunity to play safely.

3651 - E Gobeck - would like to listen to the meeting on the phone.

1050 - Sam Duncan - would like a system like the city council has for meetings to allow for easier public comment.

3731 - Roz Lolipier - supports rethinking the city budget to include more budgeting for housing, mental health and less funding for the police department.

8477 - Watching on YouTube - Mora Gans - does not believe the 19 million police budget reflects the community values. - wants postal service and more affordable house. Would like an

investigation on the police for the actions on June 6. Would like a public apology from the Mayor and the police department.

9781 - Left the meeting.

3. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

FY 2021 Preliminary Budget Webpage (documents are updated at least 30-minutes prior to the meeting): <https://www.ci.missoula.mt.us/2699/FY2021-Preliminary-Budget>

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Leigh Griffing presented the fiscal year 2021 budget calendar.

Bryan von Lossberg discussed some of the calendar changes.

Mirtha Becerra joined the meeting.

3.1 Fiscal Year 2021 Budget

Office of Housing and Community Development presentation 1-hour

(10-minute recess)

Fleet and Equipment presentation 1-hour

(10-minute recess)

Parks Department presentation 1-hour 40-minutes

Eran Pehan presented the Office of Housing and Community Development slideshow. This included an overview of FY20 investments and accomplishments.

Montana James continued discussing accomplishments.

Ms. James discussed the Housing and Economic Development requested investments. The requested investments will enable them to hire staff, set up administrative structures to protect the fund, establish Citizen Oversight and pilot the fund and gather data.

Ms. James presented the benefits and outcomes of the requested investments.

Ms. Pehan discussed the request for a Mobile Crisis Response Team and the benefits and outcomes of that request.

Chase Jones of Energy Conservation and Climate Action discussed Climate Ready Missoula and the implementation of the project. Mr. Jones shared several accomplishments of his division, including energy efficiency, on site renewable energy, energy master planning, Buildings for the Future and several others.

Mr. Jones presented his requested investments for FY 2021.

Sandra Vaseka joined the meeting.

Mr. Jones discussed the benefit of Missoulians and Measuring Outcomes.

Ms. Pehan discussed the Office of Neighborhoods, its accomplishments and the year ahead.

Ms. Pehan discussed Community Partnerships and their accomplishments.

Ms. Pehan gave a brief summary of their requests.

Mr. von Lossberg asked the Mayor where do we stand relative to the requested investment?

Mayor John Engen responded that we have programmed the \$750,000 for FY21 and are committed to that. Would like to look at this as an ongoing contribution. Will know more next week.

Mr. von Lossberg asked about the balancing of the projects.

Ms. Pehan states Projects must be permanently affordable to become eligible projects.

Mr. von Lossberg asked for clarification on the mobile task force, how the investment relates to the match.

Ms. Pehan states the team may be up and running in 4-6 weeks.

Stacie Anderson asked if there is a hope for additional grant funding for this project.

Mayor John Engen explained why this is a 10 month program and believes that from there we will be able to find resources to continue the program.

Ms. Anderson asked where this is located in the budget.

Ms. Pehan states it is a new request that is located on the budget website.

Heidi West believes this is a very important item and asked how the Missoula Redevelopment Agency (MRA) purchases relate.

Ms. Pehan explained how the programs from their department leverage those and other projects.

Ms. Harp asked about the total budget prior to the request.

Ms. Pehan stated the total budget is around 2 million dollars.

Public comment:

8489 - Mackenzie Cole - supporting budget increases for housing. Believes police create more problems than they solve.

9781 - Erin Shaw - supporting Ninkpata Park. Having a park in their backyard would be wonderful. A this is big open space that would benefit the community.

2473 - Jan Duncan - supporting increase funding for housing and community development. Would like to see a Crisis Stabilization site. Would like to increase supportive services. Hire more housing navigators. Would like to see the city match Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funds for winter shelters.

5678 - Mat Larsen - supporting funds for community based initiatives. Asked about funding, would like to hear the new mechanism for funding. Fully in support of a mental health crisis unit. Believes there are huge holes in the existing budget that need to be addressed.

9147 - Michael Workman - in support of reallocating support from the police department to Housing. Would like to see more initiatives for community safety.

1039 - Leticia Romero - lot of need for mental health here in Missoula. Shared a personal experience of someone who walked into her home and wanted a ride to Billings. She eventually called the police department, 3 cars responded and felt it looked threatening. She would like another option to call for situations like this.

Scot Colwell discussed the requested budget for Fleet and Equipment.

Mr. Colwell discussed union contract obligation increases.

Mr. von Lossberg discussed the information available on the internet.

Mr. Colwell presented the equipment replacement schedule. He discussed challenges that Covid-19 is presenting for his department.

Mr. Colwell briefly discussed each individual fleets needs.

Mr. von Lossberg asked about debt services.

Ms. Griffing stated some departments have cash in hand. Will have more information at a later date.

Mr. von Lossberg called for a break, reconvene at 2:30 pm.

Mr. von Lossberg reconvened the meeting at 2:32 pm.

Donna Gaukler presented a slideshow for the Missoula Parks and Recreation FY21 Budget and Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) presentation.

Ms. Gaukler discussed the public support for parks.

Ms. Gaukler discussed the role of Parks & Recreation during the Covid-19 pandemic. She discussed summer camps, sports and aquatics.

Ms. Gaukler presented the FY20 department highlights and the FY21 Department goals.

Ms. Gaukler discussed the current and future budget.

Ms. Gaukler discussed applying strategic goals including: Safety/Wellness, Equity/Access, Environmental Quality and Impact/Readiness.

Ecosystem Services FY20 highlights and FY21 goals were shared.

Ms. Gaukler presented the Conservation Lands Management (CLM) funds.

Ms. Gaukler discussed CLM and Open Space CIP updates. She briefly discussed the projects.

Ms. Gaukler discussed Urban Forestry and Developed Parks & Trails Design/Development.

Ms. Gaukler presented the FY21 Developed Parks & Trails Budget enhancement requests including: maintenance of Red Fern Park, Russell and Orange Street interchanges, striping, reducing herbicides, specialized mowers, getting right sized vehicles and utilities.

Mr. von Lossberg asked about standards for ongoing maintenance and costs. Do you have a synopsis of how those efforts are going? What is the assessment of where we are with maintenance with Orange st and Russell?

Ms. Gaukler states development standards were created few years ago. Working with Development Service to keep current. Maintenance impact statements are applied to Parks projects.

Ms. Gaukler discussed the Community Parks CIP updates, including: Fort Missoula, McCormick Park Community Center, Downtown River Front Parks master plan, Playfair Park master plan, Higgins Bridge Park restoration and Caras Park multi-use park.

Ms. Anderson thanked Ms. Gaukler for a great presentation. She asked about the batting cages at Fort Missoula and what that actually entails to take it over.

Ms Gaukler stated it will not be to take over the business. Lands will be included in the Fort Missoula Regional Park. There are several suggestions and ideas for use of the site.

Ms. Becera asked about the cost of Westside Park and the number of phases in the project.

Ms. Gaukler responded that they are focusing on the preschool playground and to build a new shelter, landscaping and walkway. We are currently at \$500,000 for this project.

Ms. Becera states this is an important park to many residents.

Rose Memorial Park, Bellevue and Whitaker Park, Northside Park Diamond, Red Fern, Bonner Park Band Shell & Fitness equipment, Pleasant View Park, Honeysuckle Park and Ninkpata were discussed.

Sandra Vaseka asked what is the average life span of playground equipment?

Ms. Gaukler stated it is roughly 20 years.

Ms. Gaukler discussed the Northside Ped Bridge Replacement, South Reserve Ped Bridge and the Milwaukee Trail Grove St to Mullan. River Bank Stabilization at Osprey Stadium, West Broadway improvements, Greenough Trail Repair and renovation, Sacajawea Spray Deck and bathroom, pavement preservation, Greenough Restroom replacement, Commuter Trail expansion.

Ms. Gaukler presented Fort Missoula Regional Park cyclical maintenance.

Ms. Gaukler discussed Parks & Recreation as essential services.

Ms. Gaukler discussed each FY21 Recreation Budget Enhancement Request.

Ms. Gaukler presented a request to enter into agreement with Missoula County Public Schools to develop Missoula's first in depth School-City partnership where we use shared resources to provide full wrap around inclusionary services.

Julie Merritt really likes the picture of the sleeping children and she likes the idea of a city-county after school program.

Mr. von Lossberg wants to mention Principal Frank at Lowell School and recognize the fact that she is looking with fresh eyes and the needs of her students. He is appreciative.

Ms. Harp thanks Donna for thinking outside the box for childcare. Has Donna worked with the Chamber of Commerce?

Ms. Gaukler says no but she has been working with United Way and multiple other groups.

Ms. Anderson appreciates Donna, she asks what specifically will be included in the Lowell School After School Childcare Program.

Ms. Gaukler states it would be a pilot program and include training, a coordinator and supplies and materials.

Ms. Gaukler discussed efficiencies, effectiveness, service and employees.

Ms. Gaukler presented more FY21 budget enhancement requests.

Ms. Gaukler also touched on future CIP projects.

Ms. Gaukler presented a summary of the Budget and CIP requests for FY21.

Moved by: Gwen Jones

Set a public hearing for August 10, 17, 24 and 31, on the fiscal year 2021 City budget and capital improvement program, the work plans and budgets for: Road District #1, Park District #1, the Downtown Business Improvement District and the Tourism Business Improvement District, a proposed increase to the permissive medical levy, and the following resolutions increasing fees:

A resolution increasing fees by 3% relating to the review and processing of land use applications pursuant to city adopted regulations pertaining to zoning, subdivision and floodplain services • business licensing • hazardous vegetation removal • engineering fees and permits related to work and use of City public right-of-way. (Development Services fees)

A resolution increasing fees by 3% relating to special event permits and fingerprinting services (Police Department fees)

A resolution increasing fees by 3% relating to wastewater industrial interceptor variance permit fees and waste hauler permits (Wastewater fees)

A resolution increasing fees by 3% relating to fire inspection, plan checking, pyrotechnic display and special event fees (Fire Department fees)

A resolution increasing fees by 4% relating to City Cemetery services. (Cemetery fees)

AYES: (7): Stacie Anderson, Mirtha Becerra, Heather Harp, Gwen Jones, Sandra Vasecka, Bryan von Lossberg, and Heidi West

ABSENT: (5): John Contos, Jordan Hess, Julie Merritt, Jesse Ramos, and Amber Sherrill

Vote results: Approved (7 to 0)

Moved by: Gwen Jones

Set a public hearing on September 2, 2020 on the following resolutions:

A resolution of the City Council of the City of Missoula, Montana, levying and assessing the lots and parcels within the City of Missoula Road District Number 1 for the costs associated with providing certain maintenance, purchasing and improvement services in fiscal year 2021 for city-owned facilities, land and equipment under the responsibility and care of the City of Missoula Public Works Department's Street Division, Central Service's Vehicle Maintenance Division and Development Service's Engineering Division providing for a method of assessments; and providing for other matters properly relating thereto.

A resolution of the City Council of the city of Missoula, Montana, levying and assessing the lots and parcels within the city of Missoula Park District Number 1 for the costs associated with providing certain maintenance, purchasing and improvement services in fiscal year 2021 for city-owned facilities, land and equipment under the responsibility and care of the city of Missoula Parks and Recreation Department; providing for a method of assessments; and providing for other matters properly relating thereto.

A resolution levying annual assessments on the hotels located in the Tourism Business Improvement District of the City of Missoula for fiscal year 2021 in the amount of \$2 per occupied room night in accordance with 7-12-1132 MCA.

A resolution levying taxes on the lots, pieces and parcels of land located in the downtown business improvement district of the city of Missoula for fiscal year 2021 in accordance with 7-12-1132 MCA.

AYES: (7): Stacie Anderson, Mirtha Becerra, Heather Harp, Gwen Jones, Sandra Vasecka, Bryan von Lossberg, and Heidi West

ABSENT: (5): John Contos, Jordan Hess, Julie Merritt, Jesse Ramos, and Amber Sherrill

Vote results: Approved (7 to 0)

4. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 pm.

Submitted by Corena Maurer, City of Missoula Parks & Recreation